Tower Conference:

BEING A

DIALOGUE

Harley BETWEEN

Robert Earl of *Oxford*

AND

Earl *MORTIMER*;

AND

Sir *W. P-le*, a Knight of *Devon.*

On the Subject of the Earl's approaching TRYAL.

Containing many Hiſtorical as well as Political Paſſages.

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A

DIALOGUE

BETWEEN THE

E. of *O*---and Sir *W*--*P*--*l*--*e*

IN THE

TOWER.

Relating to the Earl's approaching TRYAL.

Scene Mr. *Doyley's*.

Earl of *O*—— and Mr. *Bagford*.

Earl. I AM already overſtockt with *Arabick* and *Coptick* Books; I think 'tis high Time to furniſh my ſelf with ſome *Engliſh* and *Latin*——Pray have

you ever a *Directory*, and an *Amſterdam Bible*?

Mr. *B.* Yes my Lord——Shall I bring your Lordſhip a Sett of the *Claſſicks* with them?

Earl. There is now a ſmall Affair depending between the Parliament and me, as ſoon as that's over, you and I will talk about Virgil *and* Horace.

Mr. *B.* When ſhall I wait on your Lordſhip?

Earl. Send me the *Bible* and *Directory*; and I ſhall be glad to ſee you at the *Park*, a Month hence.

Enter Servant.

Serv. My Lord, Sir *W. P——le* deſires Admittance.

Earl. Does the Governor know of it?

Serv. If your Lordſhip is willing, he may be admitted.

Earl. Pray ſhew him up. [*Exit Serv.* This *Devonſhire Fox-hunter* was one of my Creatures, I gave him a Place, and the County refus'd to *Re-elect* him; but I forgive them: E. *P*--- Lord *Lanſdown*, Sir *Copleſton*, and other Gentlemen have made them *Fight* ſince that Time.

Re-enter

Re-enter Servant, with Sir W.

Sir *W.* My Lord, your moſt humble Servant; I am glad to find your Lordſhip ſo well in Health.

Earl. Truly I did not think the *Tower* Air would have agreed with me ſo well, but I believe it will do my Buſineſs, and rid me of all my Diſtempers. How do all our Friends do?

Sir *W.* Our Friends my Lord, I muſt ask that of your Lordſhip; you have the beſt of them your Neighbours here.

Earl. Indeed it would be a great Comfort to me in my Confinement, if I had ſuch good Company; but that *Soul* is ſo hard hearted, he locks us *up* as if we were a Parcel of *Goal-Birds.*

Sir *W.* You meet ſometimes, don't you?

Earl. We have no Opportunity but at *Church*, and you know I never go there.

Sir *W.* You have a fine Snuff-box, my Lord, Pray what's the Picture?

Earl. That's a Secret; 'tis no Madonna, *I aſſure you.*

Sir *W.* 'Tis a Woman's; Pray, my Lord, Communicate.

Earl. You may pay for it.

Sir *W.* How ſo, my Lord? This is a new Myſtery.

Earl. Well, if you will needs know all, 'tis the Pretenders.

Sir *W.* Nay then I muſt ſee it.

Earl. By no means: *Should you ſay he is a handſome young Fellow, it may be made an Article againſt you.*

Sir *W.* I'll venture that, for ſo agreeable a Sight at any Time.

Earl. There 'tis.

Sir *W.* This is a Womans Picture, and no very handſome one.

Earl. A Bite, Sir William, *'tis my firſt Wives, but I can't help Joking.*

Sir *W.* I am glad your Lordſhip is ſo facetious, I hope you have Reaſon for it.

Earl. The greateſt in the World, when I think what Fools I ſhall make of the *Whigs:* They fancy they have my Head in a String, but I'll ſlip thro' their Fingers I warrant ye.

Sir *W.* The World are not of your Opinion.

Earl. The World? I have been too hard for them all my Life time. The World never thought that *Robin H——y* wou'd have made a double Earl. The World did not believe I could have brought the Peace about, and have ſent the Duke of *Marlborough* a Travelling. The World made a Jeſt of my *Aſſiento*, my *Demolition* of *Dunkirk*, and a Hundred other Things. And yet you ſee how I manag'd all thoſe Matters—— I tell you

you Sir *William*, I care no more for the World, than the World cares for me, and make no more of Bubbling them, than a *Sharper* does of Tricking a *Cully*.

Sir *W.* You have a good *Heart*, my Lord.

Earl. And a good *Head* too.

Sir *W.* I hope you will *keep* it.

Earl. Never fear, the *Whigs* ſhall find 'twas as ſafe to roaſt *Sacheverell*, as to meddle with me. Lord, What ſhould give you Reaſon to think otherwiſe? Did not I, who have been a *Fanatick* from my Cradle, ſo far impoſe on the People, as to make 'em run after me when I was brought hither, and Huzza me with *High-Church* and *Harley* for ever.

Sir *W.* Have you forgot what *Oliver* ſaid to *Ireton*, when he was ſhouted into Town by the *Mobb*, after the *Battle* of *Worceſter*. *Thoſe very Fellows wou'd as joyfully Huzza me to the Gallows.*

Earl. Oliver had not the *Church* on his Side.

Sir *W.* But he was as good a *Churchman.*

Earl. Fie, Sir *William*, did not I get the *Schiſm Bill* for you? Well, no more of that, you ſhall find me able to deal with a hundred *Committee-Men.*

Sir *W.* The Articles are very ſtrong, and ſeems to be drawn up with *Judgment* and *Spirit.*

Earl.

Earl. What ſignifie *Spirit* and *Judgment*?

Sir *W.* A great deal, when they are accompany'd with *Fact* and *Truth.*

Earl. What ſignify *Truth* and *Fact*?

Sir *W.* Nay, if you can baffle all this.

Earl. All this—why I have been doing nothing elſe all my Life-time.—Come, come, I have an Anſwer in one Word for every Charge they can bring againſt me; 'tis a knocking-down Argument,—as often as I make uſe of it, you will ſee all the *Ladies* in the *Galleries* wipe their pretty Eyes, and weep for me, as they did for the *Doctor.*

Sir *W.* What magick Word can this be, that has as much Power as that of *Church.*

Earl. Why, the *Queen*, the dear *Queen*, Sir *William*, when the *Managers* preſs hard upon me, and I have nothing elſe to ſay for my ſelf: Then I pull out my Hankerchief, wipe my Eyes too, and cry, *It was my gracious Miſtreſſes Command*; ſo that what is ſaid againſt me, will be taken to be ſaid againſt the Memory of the *Queen* too.

Sir *W.* I thought you had not been very well with her Majeſty for ſeveral Months before her Death, and that ſhe us'd to give you *hard* Names, when ſhe ſpoke of you.

Earl. Puh, who knows that beſides Friends? And did all the Town know it—they wou'd not think of it at that Time. The very Name of the *Queen* will make 'em

'em melt like ſo many Milk-ſops, eſpecially when they ſee a huge Fellow with an *Ax* ſtanding at my Shoulder, as the Devil lookt over *Lincoln*. They will be ſuch Idiots, as to imagine *Queen Anne* her ſelf is brought to the Bar, and have nothing but the 30*th of* January *in their Mouths*.

Sir *W*. They cannot be ſo Stupid ſure.

Earl. As for their Stupidity, had I not been very well appriz'd of it, do you think I would have dar'd to attempt a Change of the *Miniſtry*, when the Duke of *Marlborough*, and the Lord *Godolphin* were at the Head of it; to have diſſolv'd one of the moſt zealous Parliaments that ever ſate in St. *Stephens* Chappel, to have put an End to a glorious War, by giving *Spain* to *Philip*, and to have ſuffer'd the *Catalans* Throats to be cut: Yes, they are ſtupid enough to conclude, I have really as much Reſpect for the Memory of *Queen Anne*, as for that of her *Grandfather*.

Sir *W*. Very likely, my Lord! Yet ſtill I don't ſee what Service it will be to you, to have nothing in your Mouth but *Queen Anne*, *My dear Royal Miſtreſs*, *my late gracious Sovereign*, and the like.

Earl. I doubt not, your *Eyes* are as good as your *Noſe*, and that you have as ſtrong a Scent, as any of your own *Fox-Hounds*, when you are within your Sphere: Howe-

ver,

ver; I muſt tell you, there is a great deal of Difference between a *Fox-Chace*, and a *Staff-Chace*; had I not known my *Men*, I had never had a Garter: What did we do with the cry of the *Church*, when ſhe was in no more Danger, than ſhe was in Queen *Beſs*'s Days? And the Cry of the *Queen* may ſave our *Necks*, if it can do no more for us.

Sir *W.* It may do pretty well in *Generals*, but how will it bring you off in *Particulars*?

Earl. Don't trouble your Head about that, you may be ſure I do not intend to convince People by the *Reaſon*, but by the *Sound*; 'tis not the *Thing*, but the Name: Her Majeſty did nothing by her ſelf, that's plain, what then? She was a *good Queen*, a *pious Queen*, a *glorious Queen*, and the very *Sound* of *Queen Anne*, will make 'em deaf to every thing elſe.

Sir *W.* I wiſh you may find it ſo, but I hope you have ſomething elſe for it.

Earl. Nothing in the World, I neither have, nor wou'd have; the Word *Queen Anne* is ſufficient to quaſh a thouſand *Impeachments*, whether for *high Crimes*, or *high Treaſon*.

Sir *W.* Why don't your Neighbours here make uſe of it?

Earl. They're a Company of Blockheads, I may be as well a Wiſher, as another; but I wou'd never keep out of ſight of *Queen Anne*:

Anne. They can't ſay the *dear Queen* gave them a Commiſſion to take Arms, and if the Duke of *Ormond* did it a little after her Death, that is nothing at all to the *late Queen.* No, Sir *William*, as much as I am their Friend; I am glad I have one String to my Bow, more than they have.

Sir *W.* I hope, My Lord, notwithſtanding all this, you have other Anſwers to make to the *Articles.*

Earl. I leave that to Son *Duplin*, *Phips*, *Mead*, and honeſt *Taylor* of *Bridewell*; But I don't build much upon other folks Bottoms, I ſtand upon my own, and my Bottom once more is *Queen Anne.*

Sir *W.* I ſhould be glad to ſee with what a Grace you cou'd be always ſtopping their Mouths with the Name of the *Queen*, you muſt ſometimes, ſure, bring it in by the Head and Shoulders.

Earl. What then, it will always have its Effect, and keep me clear of the Cenſure.

Sir *W.* But a generous and grateful Soul, wou'd rather take it on himſelf, than load the Memory of his Benefactor.

Earl. Very true, Sir *William*, if a Man's Head was not in the Caſe; there's no room for Philoſophy, when the Hangman is behind one.

Sir *W.* Did not you adviſe her Majeſty to change her *Miniſters?*

Earl. Mrs. *Maſham* did.

Sir *W.* Did not you counſel her to Diſſolve the *Parliament?*

Earl. The *Privy Purſe* did.

Sir *W.* And who adviſ'd the *Privy Purſe* and Mrs. *Maſham?*

Earl. Oh, *the Queen*, Sir *William*, *the Queen.*

Sir *W.* How, my Lord, Did the *Queen adviſe* Mrs. *Maſham* and the *Privy Purſe* to adviſe her Majeſty?

Earl. No matter for that, I ſay ſtill the *Queen*, the *Queen.* Every one has not his Wits about him as you have Sir *William.*

Sir *W.* I'm afraid you will Surfeit them with too much of it.

Earl. I've told you again, and again, there can never be too much of it. Too much of a good Thing! The Proverb is againſt you.

Sir *W.* Well, if you get over all the Articles, as you have got over Mrs. *Maſham*; *Eris mihi magnus.*

Earl. For a Fancy we'll do as they ſay is done in *Newgate*, Read you the Articles or the Heads of them, and ſee what Work *Queen Anne* and I will make of 'em.

Sir *W.* I find then you are charg'd in the *Firſt* Article, with ſetting on Foot a *Separate* Treaty with *France.*

Earl.

Earl. To that I anſwer, *I always had the greateſt regard to her Majeſty's Honour.*

Sir *W.* In the *Second Article*, You are accus'd for giving up *Spain* to the Duke of *Anjou.*

Earl. The *Queen accepted of the Preliminaries.*

Sir *W.* In the *Third Article*, The Charge againſt you is, for contriving a Sett of General Preliminaries, and adviſing her Majeſty to accept of them.

Earl. I take the Liberty to affirm, that I acted in all State Matters, with the higheſt regard for the Queen.

Sir *W.* In the *Fourth Article*, You are charg'd with rendring Mr. *Buys*'s Repreſentations ineffectual, and making her Majeſty declare ſhe wou'd make no Separate Treaty with *France.*

Earl. I believe, *It was the Queen's Intentions to make good her Engagements with her Allies.*

Sir *W.* In the *Fifth Article*, The Accuſation is, That before the Treaty was ſet a foot at *Utrecht*, you agreed by a Private Treaty, that *Spain* and the *Weſt-Indies* ſhou'd remain in a Branch of the Houſe of *Bourbon.*

Earl. I heard the Queen ſay, She believ'd King *Philip* wou'd be ſatisfy'd with *Savoy* and *Sicily.*

Sir *W.* In the *Sixth Article*, You are accus'd for contriving prejudicial Terms of Peace with the Enemies Miniſters.

Earl. I am perſwaded the Queen acted in perfect Confidence with her Allies, and do not apprehend that if I wrote to France *by the Queen's Authority 'twas againſt Law.*

Sir *W.* The *Seventh Article* is, That you Treacherouſly advis'd her Majeſty to accept King *Philip*'s Renunciation.

Earl. I do not believe the Queen cou'd be engag'd in any Deceit with France.

Sir *W.* The *Eighth Article* is, That you advis'd the ſending an Order to the Duke of *Ormond*, not to Beſiege a Town or give Battle.

Earl. The Queen was unwilling to hazard her Subject's Blood. It was owing to her Piety, and her Knowledge of ſome Matter depending, that Orders were ſent the Duke of Ormond *to avoid a Battle or Siege; and the Queen might ſend ſuch Orders as well as the* States General.

Sir *W.* The *Ninth Article* is, That you ſtop'd the Pay of the Foreigners in the Duke of *Ormond*'s Army.

Earl. I cou'd not pay them without the Queen's Warrant, which I never receiv'd; and I ſubmit to Judgment, whether the Diſaſters that happen'd had not been prevented by a Compliance with the Queen's Meaſures.

Sir

Sir *W.* The *Tenth Article* is, That you advis'd a Suſpenſion of Arms with *France*, without the Knowledge of the Allies.

Earl. I believe the Queen might deſire a Suſpenſion of Arms for the Benefit of Trade, but I do not believe ſhe intended to violate her Treaties with the Allies.

Sir *W.* The *Eleventh Article* is, That you Traiterouſly advis'd the *French* how to gain *Tournay*.

Earl. The Dutch *deſir'd the Queen to interpoſe that they might keep* Tournay; *and the Queen did interpoſe accordingly, and I believe they did keep it.*

Sir *W.* The *Twelfth Article* is, That while the Queen was at War with the Duke of *Anjou*, to diſpoſſeſs him of the *Spaniſh* Monarchy, you concerted with the Queen's Enemies, the yielding up *Spain* and the *Weſt-Indies* to the ſaid Duke.

Earl. I do not admit that the Queen was oblig'd to diſpoſſeſs King Philip *of the* Spaniſh *Monarchy.*

Sir *W.* The *Thirteenth Article* is, That you advis'd her Majeſty to conſent that the *French* ſhou'd Fiſh, and dry Fiſh on *New-found-land*, and that they ſhou'd have *Cape Breton*, which belongs to *Acadia.*

Earl. I believe the Queen had a juſt regard to Trade, and I do not apprehend the Queen

Queen meant Cape Breton, *when ſhe ſpoke of the Ceſſion of* Acadia *by the* French.

Sir *W.* The *Fourteenth Article* is, That you advis'd her Majeſty to procure *Sicily* for the Duke of *Savoy*.

Earl. Why might not the Queen aſſiſt ſo great a Sufferer for the Common Cauſe as that Duke was.

Sir *W.* The *Fifteenth Article* is, That you prevail'd with the Queen to declare from the Throne, Things which were notoriouſly falſe, to prevent the Faithful Advice of Parlimament, and to obtain a Sanction to your own Traiterous Practices.

Earl. Thoſe that will ſeriouſly conſider all the Steps her Majeſty took in the Negotiations of Peace, will acknowledge ſhe did her utmoſt to procure reaſonable Satisfaction for the Emperor and all her Allies; and if ſhe was prevented by their extraordinary Demands, this will not derogate from the Truth of her Expreſſions; and the Queen earneſtly inſiſted on Philip's *quitting* Spain.

Sir *W.* The *Sixteenth Article* is, That you intended to Subvert the Antient Conſtitution, by getting Twelve Lords created at once.

Earl. If her Majeſty had conſulted me about the Perſons ſhe intended to create, I ſhou'd have highly approv'd of her Majeſty's Choice.

Sir *W.* The *Seventeenth Article* is, That you advis'd the Queen to conſent to the Deſtructive

Deſtructive Expedition to *Canada*, after it had been laid aſide as impracticable, and that you Paid 28000 *l.* which you knew the Queen was cheated of.

Earl. I had the Queen's poſitive Orders to Pay it.

Sir *W.* The *Eighteenth Article* is, That you got a Warrant for 13000 *l.* for ſpecial Services of the War, and afterwards appropriated it to your own uſe.

Earl. Her Majeſty often preſt me to accept of ſome Money, *and when I had refuſed it a long while ſhe was pleas'd to ſay*, She was reſolv'd to have it done, *and ſhe gave it me out of her mere Bounty.*

Sir *W.* The *Nineteenth Article* is, That you paid extraordinary Sums of Money to *Mathew Prior* and *Thomas Harley*, Two of your Creatures, for their Expences Abroad.

Earl. I paid thoſe Sums by her Majeſty's Authority, and her Majeſty might vary her appointments as ſhe thought fit.

Sir *W.* The *Twentieth Article* is, That you held a private Correſpondence with the Conſort of the late King *James*, and agreed to pay her 47000 *l.*

Earl. Gualtier *her Agent, applied to the Queen, and the Queen Sign'd a Warrant for what Money was paid her.*

Sir *W.* The *Twenty firſt Article* is, That you admitted one *Patrick Lawleſs*, a Traytor,

as

as an Agent for King *Philip*, and paid him 1000 *l.* tho' he had been Agent for the Pretender at *Madrid.*

Earl. The Queen was pleas'd to admit ſuch a Perſon with Letters of Credence from the King of Spain, *and before he return'd the Queen order'd* 1000 *l. to be paid him.*

The *Twenty ſecond Article* is, That you form'd a moſt Wicked and Cruel Contrivance to abandon the *Catalans*, her Majeſty's Friends and Confederates to be deſtroy'd by Fire and Sword.

Earl. I conceive if her Majeſty cou'd do no more than ſhe did for them, it cannot be imputed to any Neglect of hers; her Interpoſitions in their Favour were not wanting, and the Houſe of Peers thank'd her for what ſhe had done for them.

Sir *W.* But all this is nothing to what you ſay of her late Majeſty, in the latter Part of the *Concluſion.*

Earl. That's the Cream of all. 'Twill ſting 'em 'Efaith. They will not be able to hold up their Heads after it. Let me ſee, here it is, ' Every Thing I am charg'd with ' was done in the Reign of a Gracious ' Princeſs now deceaſed, who by Reaſon ' of the perfect Knowledge ſhe had of the ' ill State of Affairs at Home, of the Ad- ' vances made towards Peace Abroad, and ' *mind Sir* William, of the Commands which

' ſhe

' ſhe at ſeveral Times laid on her Servants,
' had been the beſt, and indeed could be
' the only competent Judge, whether ſhe
' was frauduntly dealt with'. What d' ye ſay to this? Here I lay it home, and whoever charges me with the Peace, charges her Majeſty *with Sacrificing the Intereſts of the Kingdom to the Enemy.*

Sir *W.* That is, if they cannot prove you gave the Council.

Earl. That is, What is? I tell you I defy all Proof, and come back-ſtroke upon them, as thus: *Every Thing was communicated to her late Majeſty, whoſe Memory, I am confident, will be for ever dear to this Country. Her Earneſt deſires of Peace had been twice fruſtrated,* There's *Hague* and *Gertruydenberg* for them. *The Queen had nothing more at Heart than to procure ſo great a Bleſſing for her People; and when it was obtained, ſhe had this Satisfaction in her ſelf, that ſhe had taken the moſt proper Meaſures to juſtify her Conduct: The Queen ſeem'd to be of the Duke of* Parma's *Opinion,* That if *France* was to be got only by reducing its Towns, the World wou'd be ſooner at an end than ſuch a War.

Sir *W.* Pray did her Majeſty underſtand that Matter as well as the Duke of *Parma,* and how many Towns were there between the *Somme* and *Paris*?

Earl. Lord what Queſtions you ask, I am no Map-maker? I ſay the Duke of of *Parma* and the Queen jump'd in Opinion, Nay that the Queen *had more Reaſon than ever* Parma *had*, and then what ſhou'd we have got by the taking of *Paris* and *Verſailes*? Are there not a 1000 Towns in *France* between that and the *Alps*? The Duke of *Parma* and her Majeſty meant the taking all of 'em; I therefore take the Liberty to obſerve, that our ſending *Prior* and *Moor* to *France* was very much to our Glory that the Queen enter'd upon the Peace *with great Circumſtances of Honour to her ſelf. That ſhe effectually ſupported the juſt Pretenſions of the Allies. That ſhe obtain'd larger Advantage for* Great Britain *than ever was demanded.*

Sir *W.* What think you of the late Treaty with *Spain*?

Earl. You do not mind what I ſay. *When was it ever demanded till then?* I can't help what other Folks have demanded ſince. In ſhort, I do affirm, let 'em ſay what they will of King *Philip*'s diſowning the *Renunciations*, &c. That the Treaty has, as the Queen ſaid, *Executed it ſelf.* And let 'em ſay what they will of me and my Counſels, I declare in Anſwer to all, ' That ' it was with great Wonder and Pleaſure, ' that I obſerv'd how her Majeſty's whole ' Endeavours and Time were divided, be- ' tween her Duty to God, and her Love

' to

'to her People; whoſe Good and Safety 'ſhe prefer'd always to her own Eaſe, and 'often hazarded her Health and Life it 'ſelf to procure it.

Sir *W.* What's all this to the Articles?

Earl. Why don't I add? 'I knew that 'the moſt effectual way to recommend 'my ſelf to her good Opinion, was to 'act upon the ſame Principles of Juſtice, 'and Love to my Country that ſhe did; 'and as for our Safe, Juſt, and Honourable 'Peace, Generations to come, will bleſs the 'Memory of that Excellent and Renown-'ed Queen.

Sir *W.* So I find there is not one of all the Two and Twenty *Articles* againſt you, but you clear your ſelf of it, by throwing them all on the Queen.

Earl. And can you blame me, Sir *William?* Queens can do no Wrong as well as Kings; but Lord Treaſurers are not Infallible, and therefore have I wiſely put her Majeſty between me and Danger.

Sir *W.* What is this which you call the *Concluſion?*

Earl. Oh! That's the Flower of all, read it, and you'll quickly ſee who penn'd it. Between you and me, 'twas *Frank Atterbury.*

Sir *W.* Then I take it for granted, there's as much of the *Queen* in your *Concluſion*, as there was of the Church in the *Doctor's* Speech.

Earl. 'Tis as keen as one of the *Jew*'s Razors; I'faith it Shaves cloſe. It ſhews 'em their own; but it tickles too like a Feather. 'Tis made up of the *Queen* and the *Addreſſes*, and wipes my Face as clean as a Child's at a *Chriſtning*. 'Tis too long for you to go through with it; give me the Papers I'll turn to the moving Paſſages, and you ſhall ſee how I will dwell upon 'em at my Tryal.

Sir *W.* If I am not miſtaken you'll find as ſharp work from the Managers. They are Men of Spirit and Judgment, and I'm afraid they will ſoon find out a way to oblige you to quit your Hold, and prove that Queen *Anne* and Earl *Robert* were two different Perſons.

Earl. Ay, Ay, Let 'em prove what they can, I ſhall be hard enough for 'em; Don't you ſee thoſe Seven huge *Folios* and that *Quarto* too.

Sir *W.* What of them?

Earl. Why, They are all Preſidents, Sir *William.*

Sir *W.* Preſidents, And all on your ſide!

Earl. 'Tis no matter for that. If I can get 'em Read, it will get me Time, and if they perplex, 'twill do as well as if they convinc'd; but let's go o-, Queen *Anne*, as I was ſaying. I wiſh you had come a little ſooner, Sir *William*, Mr. *Hawkins* was but juſt gone.

Sir

Sir. *W.* Mr *Hawkins*, who is he?

Earl. Did you never hear of Mr. *Hawkins*? He is our *Chaplain*, and a very honeſt Man. Indeed he's not High enough for your Nameſake.

Sir *W. Will. Wyndham* you mean. What of Mr. *Hawkins* my Lord?

Earl. He comes to me twice a Day to Read *Prayers*, for you muſt know I never go to *Chapel.*

Sir *W.* What's your Reaſon for that?

Earl. Don't you ſee my Cuſhions and my Common-Prayer-Book. They were Queen *Anne*'s Sir *William*; I got them of the Cloſet-Keeper ſince her Death. If I ſave my Head, it muſt be by Queen *Anne*; and if I ſave my Soul, the Dear Queen muſt help me out in it. All that I do for this World or the next ſhall have ſomething of the Queen in it.

Sir *W.* This is very extraordinary. Have you any more of it ſtill?

Earl. Pray mind; *I cannot help obſerving, that whatever is charg'd upon me, was done in the Reign of a Gracious Princeſs.*

Sir *W.* Will not your Adverſaries ſay, ſo much the worſe, that you abus'd the Goodneſs of ſo Gracious a Princeſs.

Earl. Let them ſay what they will, our Friends will be touch'd to the Quick, and who knows what an Effect it may have on the Multitude? But mind ſtill, ' I grieve to

' the

'the Heart that any Thing ſhould be ſug-
'geſted, which ſeems to lay a Stain upon
'her Majeſty's Character: She maturely con-
'ſider'd every Thing; ſhe was highly ſatiſ-
'fied with her Conduct, ſhe did more to
'carry on the War, than ſhe was bound to
'do, and was forc'd to hearken to Over-
'tures of Peace out of Pity to her People,
'ſhe did not think her Glory a ſufficient Re-
'compence for their Miſeries; and that in-
'clin'd her to a Juſt, Safe, and Honourable
'Peace. Will not this do Sir *William?*

Sir *W.* I doubt thoſe that read it, will cry, what's this to Earl *O.* and *M.*

Earl. You ſhall hear that immediately; *I, and all her Majeſty's Counſellors, thought it our Duty to ſecond her good Intentions, and obey her Commands.* If therefore we did nothing but our Duty, what can they make of their *Impeachments*? eſpecially ſince it chiefly relates to a Peace; for which *Thankſgivings were made in the Churches of* England *and* Holland, *and her Majeſty had Addreſſes upon it.* Since nothing was done *contrary to the* Queen's *Orders*; ſince the Queen *eſteemed the Concluſion of it the greateſt Happineſs of her Reign*; in a Word, ſince it was confirm'd by Parliament?

Sir *W.* To the laſt the Whigs will ſay, you made your Dozen on purpoſe, and that the Lords all along Voted againſt your Meaſures, till you by that Means got a *Ma-*

Earl.

Earl. Let 'em ſay what they will, the Dozen is ſtill a Dozen, and the Addreſſes ſtand upon Record.

Sir *W.* We grant it, and that the *Queen* was ev'ry Thing you ſay of her; yet will it be ſaid, What has her Piety, her Goodneſs, to do with your *Counſel* and *Advice*? If Kings are not accountable, Miniſters are; and if you *advis'd*, and counſell'd her to do Things againſt her own and Subjects Intereſts, how will you come off of it?

Earl. Don't tell me, can a gracious Princeſs, a Princeſs *of conſummate Wiſdom*, be impos'd upon by any one's Advice and Counſel? No, you muſt ſuppoſe that ſhe did every Thing her ſelf, and that every Thing ſhe did, was Wiſe and Pious, or you injure her moſt ſacred Character.

Sir *W.* The Whigs ſay further, that when her Grandfather, Chancellor *Hyde*, was *impeach'd* in Parliament, and one Article againſt him was the Sale of *Dunkirk*, of which your Father was then Governor, Mr. *Vaughan*, afterwards Lord Chief-Juſtice, declar'd in Anſwer to a Member of the Houſe of Commons, who wou'd have excus'd *Hyde*, on Account of the King's Order, That no Order, no Command, would juſtifie a Miniſter in the Execution of what himſelf had advis'd, if the Thing it ſelf was not juſtifiable. They ſay alſo, that a Treaty has been confirm'd by Parliament, and the

Treators

Treators thank'd for it, in corrupt Times, by both Lords and Commons; and yet they have afterwards been impeach'd for the ſame Thing, when the Times have chang'd for the better; and they Inſtance in the Treaty of *Tours* in *Harry* the VI*th*'s Reign, for which the Duke of *Suffolk* was at firſt thank'd, and afterwards proſecuted; and they do ſay, *Harry* the VI*th* was a Prince of as diſtinguiſh'd Piety, and as conſummate Wiſdom, as even the late Queen.

Earl. You'll allow me to know as much of the Chronicle as the beſt Whig of 'em all. You will not compare *Harry* the VI*th* with Queen *Anne*, I hope.

Sir *W.* I only tell you what the Whigs ſay.

Earl. And I tell you what I my ſelf have ſaid, and will ſay again, as often as I am put to it. Did not you hear of the Speech I made before I was taken into Cuſtody?

Sir *W.* I was in *Devonſhire* then, pray favour me with it.

Earl. I'll read what's to the preſent Purpoſe, and you may judge by that, what uſe I intend to make of the Name of *Queen* Anne. *I cannot without the higheſt Ingratitude, be unconcern'd for the beſt of Queens, a Queen, who heaped upon me Honours and Preferments, though I never ask'd for them, and therefore I think my ſelf under an Obligation to vindicate the Memory, and the Meaſures ſhe purſu'd to my dying Breath.*

Sir

Sir *W.* Indeed, my Lord, you are very plain there, you as good as tell them, that to touch you, is to attack the Queen her ſelf.

Earl. And I'll tell them ſo again, and again: Pray obſerve the laſt Paragraph of this Speech; *I ſhall lay down my Life with Pleaſure, in a Cauſe favour'd by my late dear Royal Miſtreſs.* You can't imagine how many Friends I got by it; People who before did not care a Farthing what became of me, finding that I had made my Cauſe, the Cauſe of the Queen, the Cauſe of the Dear Gracious Queen, gave me now their Hearts and Hands, and I was all of a ſudden become Popular. Muſt there not be *Magick* in a Word, that wrought ſuch a Miracle?

Sir *W.* Well, as the *Clerk* ſays to *Culprit*, God *ſend you a good Deliverance.*

Earl. I don't doubt it.

Sir *W.* The New Treaty of Commerce with *Spain*, is as I obſerve before, a ſad Incident, the Adverſary will cry, *See what they might have had if they would? Queen* Anne *did not hinder it.*

Earl. That's the worſt of their Charge, Who wou'd have thought, that after we had ruin'd our Credit Abroad, King *Philip* wou'd have been ſuch a Fool, as to part with an Article of our Treaty: However, I ſtill ſay, Queen *Anne* could get no more; that Queen *Anne* had a juſt Regard to Trade, and that if it

had not been for the Peace, no Body cou'd have got any Thing of him.

Sir *W.* 'Twill be very apparent, that there were not as good Terms procured, as might have been, becauſe the preſent Miniſters have got better.

Earl. That's true, *However, I think my ſelf oblig'd to vindicate the Queen's Memory, and her Meaſures, to my dying Breath.*

Sir *W.* You were very induſtrious to get a Parliamentary Sanction for your Treaties of Commerce, with *France* and *Spain.*

Earl. And abundance of honeſt Country Gentlemen fell in with me. If we had carry'd that Point, Things wou'd have gone ſwimmingly, and the Buſineſs wou'd not have been done at this Time.

Sir *W.* What Buſineſs?

Earl. You know as well as I, Sir *William*, 'tis a loſt Game, and as I have ſaid a Thouſand Times, ſo I now ſay once more for all, we have nothing left for it but *Queen Anne.*

Sir *W.* The *Clergy* may indeed be byaſs'd by it, and make your Cauſe that of the late Queens. But, 'tis not now their Day; They Preach and Prate, and all to no Purpoſe, and you'l rather fare the worſe than the better for having 'em on your ſide.

Earl. You are miſtaken, Sir, whoever has the *Parſons* on his ſide will ſurely have the

the People. The *Majority* is made up of Women and Fools, and the *Parſons* have always the Fools and Women at their beck.

Sir *W.* Has not your Lordſhip ſeen a New Treatiſe about *Treaſon* and *Attainders.*

Earl. I have heard of it, but I think I maul'd off *Attainders* ſufficiently in *Fenwick's* Caſe. I allow'd he was *Guilty*; but we having not Two Witneſſes of his Treaſon, cou'd not Attaint him without charging our ſelves with his Blood; *Let us not*, ſaid I, *out of hatred or zeal to a Guilty Man loſe our Innocence.* What Evidence have they againſt me? Beſides you know I was always for the *Proteſtant Succeſſion.*

Sir *W.* To inſtance the Prince's *Writ.*

Earl. What cou'd I do, the Queen wou'd not hear of it, and ſhou'd I make uſe of any body's Ear but my dear Royal Miſtreſſes?

Sir *W.* You aſſiſted at the Proclamation of King *George.*

Earl. I did more, Sir *William*, I was one of the Firſt Peers that attended the King at *Greenwich*; I was one of the Gayeſt at the *Coronation*; I have taken all *Oaths* and *Abjurations*; and when the Rebel Lords were brought hither, I gave ſuch a Proof of my Loyalty as will never be as forgotten.

Sir *W.* Pray my Lord, What Proof have you but your own Word?

Earl. Oh, I took Care to have the greateſt *Officers* in the *Tower* with me on that Day. I dreſt my ſelf as Spruce as a Bridegroom, had a new full bottom'd *Peruke*, put on my *Star* and my *Garter*, and affected an Air of Joy, which ſurpriz'd all that ſaw it.

Sir *W.* How cou'd they tell what you meant by it?

Earl. I was quick enough to let 'em know it; as I ſaid, thoſe Officers being ſurpriz'd to ſee me ſo great a *Beau*, and ſo very Gay, ask'd me the Occaſion; cry'd I, *I cou'd do no leſs, Gentlemen, than teſtify my Joy on this Day of Triumph, over the Enemies of my King and Country.*

Sir *W.* You are *Semper Idem.*

Earl. Juſt as the dear Queen was *Semper Eadem*, I cannot follow a better Example. Is it true, Sir *William*, that the *Scaffolds* are really put up, and do they talk ſtill that I ſhall be in truth brought to my *Tryal?*

Sir *W.* They do talk ſo indeed, my Lord, and worſe than that too.

Earl. Why, Has *Mat* ſaid any thing? Has *Arthur* ſqueak'd?

Sir *W.* He has *Sworn* ſomething, and *Arthur* has been cackling.

Earl.

Earl. How, Nay then I'm ruin'd; What is it? Speak! Have they Sworn that I ſent them to *France*; that I ſent them to St. *Germains*; that I took any Thing, or did any Thing, What have they Sworn?

Sir *W.* I do not know what *Arthur* has done, but *Mat* has Sworn to bear true and Faithful Allegiance to King *George*. He took the *Oaths* at *Hick's-Hall*.

Earl. Why did you fright me ſo? This is playing with edg'd Tools, I had rather hear a *Death-Watch*, than a Word of *Mat's* Swearing. I wiſh to God he were as dumb as *Greg* is.

Sir *W.* You wou'd not have his Tongue ty'd the ſame way, my Lord.

Earl. I care not what way, ſo I hear no more of him. Do they talk any Thing of *Swift*, and did not you ſay ſomething of *Moor*?

Sir *W.* *Swift* is coming from *Ireland*.

Earl. I don't like that Fellow. He'll do any thing for Money; He offer'd to write for Lord *Godolphin*, but he was ſo ſturdy he wou'd not pay him for't, ſo I took him, and told him more than I need have done.

Sir *W.* Are you afraid of *Arthur*?

Earl. He has built a fine Houſe, and wou'd be glad if any one wou'd pay for it: You know he was in *France*.

Sir

Sir *W.* 'Twas ſaid ſo at the *Club.*

Earl. Ay, I let the *October* Men into part of the Secret; but did it by degrees, and was forc'd to buy half of 'em off, to come into the *Peace.*

Sir *W.* I was oblig'd to you my Lord, as well as others.

Earl. But 'tis all forgot, and there is not a Man of you that will *own me*, now I am in the Hands of the Enemy.

Sir *W.* Own you! We never bound our ſelves for a longer Time, than while you had the *Staff*; nay my Lord, if you are angry, I'm ſorry I gave you this Trouble, I promiſe you it ſhall be the laſt.

Earl. Ah, Sir *William*, the *dear Queen* wou'd not have ſerv'd me ſo; ſhe wou'd have ſob'd and ſigh'd, ſhe wou'd have pity'd me, if ſhe cou'd have done me no more; and had ſhe been forc'd to have ſign'd the *Bill* as her Grandfather did for *Strafford*, ſhe wou'd have done it with trembling Hand and aking Heart. For what *I* did, *She* did, and there was no parting us. Reſt the Soul of her, ſhe was the laſt and beſt of her own Royal Family.

Sir *W.* How my Lord, Had ſhe never a Brother?

Earl. Brother! How cou'd ſhe have a Brother when we and all the *Church* Party gave her ſo many *Addreſſes* to Compliment her

her on her *Hereditary*, *Indefeaſible Right*; Brother quoth he, Come, Come, Sir *William* that Show's over: Had we brought him in while ſhe was living, ſomething might have been done, or had you *Octobrians* and *Northumburians* ſtirr'd, before the *Old Bully* dy'd you might have had a Chance for it; but as *Peterborough* ſaid, *You Fox-hunters are damn'd Politicians, he that Plots with you is ſure to hang with you.* They don't talk of any more Articles againſt me?

Sir *W.* I am not in the Houſe; but *Common Fame* ſays they have Five or Six more in *Petto.*

Earl. Miſdemeanors, Miſdemeanors, I warrant ye.

Sir *W.* I know nothing of the Matter, but it is the Talk of the Town, that they are all like that of *Tournay.* All Capital.

Earl. I ſhou'd have had a Hint of it before now, had there been any Thing in it; but had they as many Articles more, as I made Lords at a Pinch? Had they a whole Dozen of *Tournays*, as long as I have Queen *Anne* on my ſide, I am ſafe.

Sir *W.* I'm ſure you are Sanguine. What Noiſe is that, the Outward Door jars? I hear ſome Body coming.

Earl. Oh 'tis *Sowl!* your Pardon Sir *William.*

Sir *W.* What is he to do with you?

Earl.

Earl. Only to lock Two or Three Doors upon me; by this it ſhou'd be Eight a Clock.

Sir *W.* You keep good Hours.

Earl. Had I done ſo before I came hither, I might have liv'd as long as *Par* did, the dear Queen Sir *William*; Pray wherever you go tell all you meet with, that I am as much as ever I was for *Queen Anne* and the *Church.*

Sir *W.* I will do you Juſtice my Lord, and am your moſt Obedient——.

FINIS.